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Pelham NEWS

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■ AIRPORT: Call for proposals

Commission seeks new management

EDDIE CHAU
PelhamNEWS Staff

"It's a positive step in the right direction."

That's what Niagara Central Airport Commission chair and Port Colborne Ward 4 Coun. Barry Butters said about the need for someone to run the Pelham-based airport which is also used by its neighbouring municipalities — Wainfleet, Port Colborne and Welland.

The change will come in the form of a new manager and operator of the airport.

"We want to bring the airport to the next level and make it better," Butters said.

"We want to get it out there that we're growing and prospering. For it's a new, aggressive way of thinking. We hope it gets us opportunity."

The airport commission recently advertised seeking written submissions from individuals for a management and operations position. The request for proposal (RFP) came after the commission last year developed a business plan for the facility which outlines the vision of the commission while promoting future growth and financial stability for the airport.

The business plan includes addressing capital improve-



EDDIE CHAU Staff Photo
A new manager and operator are needed at Niagara Central Airport. Recently Second World War training planes visited the airport to recall its origin as a training base for pilots.

ment programs for the airport facility, exploring business potential and identifying its overall goal of financial stability.

Butters said it's the first time she can ever recall an RFP seeking a management position for the airport. She said about making the airport successfully thrive. "Now is the time to do it. We need to do things better and different and won't increase the burden [on municipalities]."

Operation costs were subsidized with contributions from other levels of government

through grants, but because that money is no longer available Butters said to keep the airport running efficiently a bigger burden will be borne by the communities.

"We need to see if we can bring in some new blood and get some new ideas," Butters said about making the airport successfully thrive. "Now is

the time to do it. We need to do things better and different and won't increase the burden [on municipalities]."

Pelham Mayor Dave

Augustyn said the airport is an asset to the municipality. Augustyn said the RFP process is integral component of the airport's viability because it allows the people or companies to be involved in its operation.

"It allows for the private sector to get involved in such an asset," Augustyn said.

"What it does is it forces the private operator to be creative on what can be done to move ahead for the future of the airport."

■ COMMUNITY: School supplies and lunch items

Pelham Cares in need for back to school

For PelhamNEWS

complete list or call the office at 905.892.5300 for more information.

Pelham Cares will have a table at the Pelham Farmers Market on Sept. 8 to donate food items. They will be dropped off there or at their office located at the old Donut diner beside the Fonthill Sobey's, from Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to noon.

This is the time of year when food banks are all very low on inventory," she said. "While you are out shopping, please consider purchasing one or two items on our list, so that we can continue to provide for those in need."

A full list of items is regularly updated and posted on the Pelham Cares website and includes items such as: fruit and pudding cups, crackers, canned ravioli/pasta meals, apple sauce (snack size and jars), jams and honey, large tires, dog food, baby hunger helper, instant and canned potatoes and stove and oven.

Personal care items, such as toilet paper and shampoo are urgently needed.

Check out the website at www.pelhamcares.org for a

list of items needed for the Thanksgiving Oct. 8.

For more information contact Pelham Cares at 905.892.5300.



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■ ENVIRONMENT: Funds raised for fire equipment

Firefighters cash in on E-waste

VICTORIA GRAY
PelhamNEWS Staff

PELHAM — Firing out old junk to help save lives.

On Saturday volunteer firefighters from all three fire stations in Pelham joined forces to help their extraction team raise funds for new stabilization equipment by hosting an E-waste Day at Pelham Town Hall.

Firefighters were accepting everything from computers and cellphones to calculators and TV sets.

"There are several benefits. People can remove stuff from their houses they don't want and it doesn't go to landfills," volunteer firefighter Rob Belchior said.

The team joined forces with the Ontario Electronics Stewardship program which pays the volunteers \$185 per tonne of electronic waste they collect. Belchior said by 10 a.m. they had already collected 10 tonnes of electronic waste.

"By recycling these things it reduces pressure to mine new minerals and the components in there are just toxic. It keeps them from polluting the environment and people's houses," Belchior said.

Adam Carter from Pelham dropped off an old computer monitor, printer, old



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

Pelham Volunteer Firefighters Lindsay Smith, left, and Ben Goutenberg unload an old printer at E-waste Day at Pelham Town Hall on Saturday. The volunteer firefighters unloaded more than 10 tonnes of electronics before 10 a.m. to help raise money for their extraction team.

cellphones, a home phone, calculators and some other electrical household goods. He thought this was a great way to get rid of his old electronics.

"It's a fantastic way to give to charity. They are going to be able to get their new equipment for sure," he said.

The volunteers didn't even make people get out of their cars. People drove up opened

their trunks and firefighters unloaded trunks, backseats and passenger seats with a smile and tossed it into a recycling dumpster and care was free to go.

The size of the load didn't matter as more than 10 volunteers swarmed around vehicles like worker bees.

"It's a win, win, win for us because the recycling company and the community members who

get to 'declutter,'" Belchior said.

Pelham Fire Services' extraction team goes to competitions in the region and international level to compete and learn new skills to save lives more effectively and efficiently. Its last competition was in June in North Carolina, where they finished fourth against teams from as far as Sweden and England.

■ FUNRAISER: Party at Centennial High Sept. 10

Museum honours Pelham and Welland stars in exhibit

For PelhamNEWS

The Welland Museum will open its "Famous Sons & Daughters of Welland and Pelham" exhibit with a fund-raising party to pay tribute to some of the most outstanding people from Welland and Pelham.

While the exhibit is at the Welland Museum on King St. the party on Saturday, Sept. 10, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. is at Centennial Secondary School.

It will feature an evening with home-grown heroes including musician Mark Islama, Hamilton MPP Sophia Aggelonitis, NBA star Mike Smrk, children's entertainer Kellie Haines, sports commentator Ed Burkholder, journalist Murray Brewster, 1968 Toronto Argonauts all-star Ed Learn, Olympic softball star Pauline Maurice, and National Lacrosse League scoring sensation Dr. Pat Maddalena — just to name a few.

The evening includes performances by magician Shaun Ferguson and live music including Breton

Lalama and the Notre Dame College Jazz Band.

Tickets include complimentary wine and beer and a variety of food donated by local restaurants.

Reunite and mingle with your favourite celebrity honorees, and bid on a range of items from event tickets and gift baskets to autographed NHL hockey gear.

Tickets are on sale now for \$50/ticket or two for \$90. Discount prices available for blocks of tickets and for non-smokers. Tickets can be purchased at the museum, at Boston Pizza and Bravo Restaurant in Welland, or on-line at wellandmuseum.ca.

Call the museum at 905-732-2215 for more information.

And for the kids, children's entertainer and ventriloquist Kellie Haines will give a special presentation from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10 at the museum.

Tickets are adults \$10 and children \$8 and are available at the museum. Call 905-732-2215 to order. Seating is limited.

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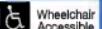
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■ ELECTION: Katie Trombetta

Former West Lincoln mayor Liberal candidate

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

Liberal party candidate
Katie Trombetta sees herself representing Niagara-West-Glanbrook provincial riding as an extension of her previous job.

The 10-year mayor of sprawling West Lincoln Township said, if you add Pelham to the east, Grimsby to the west, and, Gormley and Lincoln to the north, you have a riding.

"It's just a few more people, she chuckled.

She knows to the distances, the diversity and the issues facing the riding.

"I like being right on the front line," she said. "I'm used to wearing a big red dot."

Trombetta sees a need for voice from Niagara-West-Glanbrook.

"I want to make sure the residents of the area are well represented in Toronto," she said.

"When I was mayor, I lived

and breathed West Lincoln. I intend to live and breathe the riding as long as I'm permitted."

A 33-year-old with a small farm in Cawston Centre said she has no other ambitions.

"I will be MPP of the people. I don't have any interest in advancing myself as party leader or premier."

The riding has been somewhat neglected, she said. MPP Tim Hudak serves as Progressive Conservative party leader with duties across Ontario.

Trombetta said she is energized by the positive reception and encouragement she has received while campaigning.

The candidate is adjusting to the increased use of social media such as Facebook and blocking.

"I'm twisting and using my BlackBerry."

Housing development is a major issue for all parts of the riding.

"Our communities are get-

ting bigger and bigger," she said.

People are attracted to the riding from the GTA and surrounding areas by moving settings with urban amenities, a good lifestyle for children, and the access to larger centres like Toronto.

Trombetta said she supports well-planned development.

Isolated housing hamlets or forms of urban sprawl are bad ideas.

"You want to grow from the inside out," she said. It requires infilling urban areas first then gradually adding to them.

A mid-peninsula highway was something she said she favoured when it was first announced.

"But I have developed a slight doubt."

It is unclear how it will benefit the people who will live along it. Will it bring development to the area? Will it bring jobs to them or will it just be a closed link carrying goods and services between two points.

"What will be the cost to the people who are here?" said the former mayor who sat on regional council. For example, municipalities get money to improve infrastructure to it to it.

If it is just to move goods across the region, there are other options. The area has an under-used railway running through it that could be cheaper to develop, she said.

The Liberal government's Green Energy Act has stirred up controversy in the area.

Trombetta said she supports its goal of developing alternative forms of energy generation such as windmills and solar panels.

"I totally agree with where the province is heading, we need to get rid of coal."

She doesn't, however, like the method of imposing it.

"I truly believe it needs to have input from the municipalities and just the province," she said. Residents want to feel they are part of the process.



Katie Trombetta, Ontario Liberal Party candidate in Niagara-West-Glanbrook, knocks on doors to talk to voters in the riding.

Supplied Photo

"No government is perfect," she said about the current Liberal government. "There is always need for improvement. I can be the front person for it in this riding."

■ ELECTION: Anthony Marco



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Anthony Marco, Ontario New Democratic Party candidate for Niagara West-Glanbrook riding, campaigns in Pelham. The Hamilton teacher, in his first election campaign is an active user of social media, which he is employing in the campaign through blogging, twitter, and website.

Drama teacher acts for New Democrats

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

Anthony Marco knows he's an underdog.

"I'm fine with that," said the New Democrat candidate in Niagara West-Glanbrook.

"This isn't going to be an easy run for a party that finished third in the last provincial election," said the 43-year-old Hamilton teacher.

But over the span of a campaign a lot of minds can be changed. We are focusing on positive messaging."

In the 2007 provincial election, the New Democrats were a distant third in Niagara West-Glanbrook. His candidate received 5,800 votes while winner Progressive

Conservative Tim Hudak had 24,300 seats in the province.

But Marco, an English and dramatic arts teacher, said he has reasons for optimism.

"Look at Quebec in the federal election," he said.

The NDP came from nowhere to win the majority of seats in the province.

Marco expected the Liberal party was taking shots at the NDP early in the provincial election campaign.

"That shows they're afraid of us. Our leader Andrea Horwath is running a strong positive campaign."

Marco, a former NDP candidate, has "a big diverse riding" stretching from Pelham to Mount Hope.

"Everyone has different

issues," he said, "but we're getting very positive reactions at the door."

People along the lake in Lincoln and Grimsby, for example, have concerns unlike those on the escarpment, he said. But health and education issues keep popping up everywhere especially among seniors.

Meanwhile, policies for alternate energy sources have people wondering.

"I talked to farmers who have invested \$200,000 in solar panels. They're treating them like a crop," he said.

However, Hudak is promising to tear up contracts if he becomes premier, said Marco.

No matter who is the government, he said, they should honour contracts already

signed.

"How can we have any credibility as a province?"

The NDP candidate questions the part of the energy deal made with Samsung, a multinational company.

"More of that work could be done by Canadian companies. I know of a steel mill in Hamilton that could do it," he said.

Marco said the Liberal government has made a mistake in the way it imposes windmills and other energy projects without involving municipal governments. It's creating resentments locally.

Mid-peninsula highway across Niagara is something the area doesn't need right now, he said. There are other priorities.

Pelham News

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Tel: 905-732-2414 ext.246 Fax: 905-732-3660
e-mail: pelhamnews@wellandtribune.ca
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Ken Leyman

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■ perspective



Wayne Campbell
EDITOR

Stay safe out there

Two safe messages came through the e-mail this week.

Fire Prevention Officer Saska Holtschit cautions about an inexpensive portable gas cooker intended for outdoor use.

It can be a blaster aside as two Toronto apartment dwellers learned. They got hurt.

"The Pelham Fire Department is urging residents to follow the manufacturer's instructions for the single burner camp stove called the Cassette Cooker," she said in a newsletter.

You should read the warning labels and instructions regarding the appliance. If you use it, turn over the drip pan, before using the cooker, so the supports for the pot or pan are facing up. The cooker has a safety device intended to prevent the installation of a butane canister when the drip pan is face down. However, this device can be easily circumvented, she said.

The fire department is concerned that when the butane canister is improperly installed, the drip pan is face down. The pot or pan will block the burner opening. It then forces the hot gases down into the appliance enclosure.

Some of these gases pass through bulkhead openings into the fuel compartment. They cause pressure to build and the temperature to increase in the butane canister.

The result is a fireball. It burned the apartment residents. That's why the portable gas stove is for outdoor use only.

"The Cassette Cooker is really being sold as having a large and smaller supermarkets for as little as \$11.99 and it comes in a plastic case," she said.

Another safety message from the Ontario coroner related to a sad story: the death of a 10-year-old driving an adult ATV.

Medical studies have found children have high rates of death on ATVs, he said.

Full-size ATVs are large, heavy, and powerful machines that require strength, balance, dexterity, and judgment which children have not yet developed.

comment

■ readers' views

Single central library suggested

Re: Potential New Library Branch in Fenwick

I am writing to you regarding the article in the Pelham News of Aug. 12, which discussed the potential new branch library for Fenwick.

We agree whole-heartedly with the proposal to conduct an analysis to determine the needs of the entire town for library services. Such an analysis would, we expect, delineate several options for the committee to consider in its ongoing work.

One option we envision (and recommend) is a single central library serving the entire municipality. Since the Fenwick branch is deemed inadequate for its needs and activities, there will clearly be pressure to enlarge or relocate it in the near future.

Thinking about this situation, we were reminded of the town of Niagara-on-the-Lake which recently built one large library facility to serve their entire town, despite a widely

dispersed population. We think this is the best approach for Pelham.

Why?

Building one library would reduce capital costs up front, and of course keep ongoing maintenance, heating costs, etc., lower than it would be for two branches. Second, the reduced capital cost could be offset with the sale of other town properties such as the old Fenwick Firehall land and the unused Maple Acme Library (once vacated). The current Fenwick branch could then be used as an administrative annex to the Town Hall, thereby handling any future expansion needs for the Town Hall.

Depending on the final location chosen for a central library, the major change would be for residents to get to it.

Most people have cars or access to cars, and the few who don't or have to rely on others to get around, could be served by an entrepreneur running a small taxi-like service — perhaps a regular twice per week run.

Another option is to have a call-in request service and have a volunteer

deliver their books—the library catalogue is available on-line, or a copy could be mailed to their homes.

Also, with a central library, staffing requirements are greatly reduced as staff do not need to be duplicated. In that respect, we feel that the library does not need to rely on volunteers to assist regular staff in operating our current facilities.

In summary, we believe that one central library serving the entire town of Pelham has many advantages for the municipality's residents and should be the preferred option.

Dave and Sylvia Stremlaw
Pelham

Site alteration bylaw unnecessary

I am very concerned about the "Site Alteration Bylaw" that Craig Larmour, director of planning and development, is trying to introduce into the town.

My first concern lies with the fact

that this law is so ridiculously vague, the planning department is having difficulty even explaining it to constituents. It is also a good example of overkill, since the conservation authorities already have in place enforcement tools to control what residents can do with their properties.

I understand that this proposed bylaw may have been created in response to some people putting up便道. Whether this is a reason, or merely an excuse, is irrelevant. This bylaw is not necessary.

It will be an added burden on the municipality and its hard-working taxpayers. It will mean more paperwork, more staffing, more expenses to juggle, more conflicts between taxpayers and elected officials, more negative publicity for the municipality, and more legal challenges of its administration.

It will also result in more ridicule and derision for elected officials, since this so-called Site Alteration Bylaw actually proposes exempting the three most visible groups involved in site alteration — developers, contractors and quarellies. This bylaw is poorly worded, completely unnecessary, and will negatively affect the town's reputation even more.

Instead of burdening Pelham with yet another bylaw, I would like to suggest that you simply resolve the very few, very rare, site alteration issues when they occur. Instead of holding every single citizen of your municipality in contempt.

David Honey, President
Niagara Landowners Association

Benjamin Moore 

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Complete and utter control of your land

Have you been asked to sign the "Petition to Stop Site Alteration Bylaw?"

According to the petition, a site alteration bylaw would enable the town to "...assume complete & utter control of your land." The petition assumes that: "In other words, you would no longer be able to control over the land on which you pay taxes. This is nothing short of COMMUNISM!"

Strong language, isn't it?

So, what is the issue? Are any of these statements true? And, what would a site alteration bylaw look like?

Following complaints and the suggestion from some rural residents, the town is considering the introduction of a site alteration bylaw. Many other municipalities have enacted a bylaw of this nature to limit



Dave Augustyn
MAYORAL VIEW

grading, topsoil removal and placing of fill on sites prior to receiving the appropriate approvals.

A site alteration bylaw would allow a city or town to regulate activities with the potential for environmental degradation (dumping, erosion, sedimentation, etc...), drainage problems (blockages, impact on neighbouring properties, etc...) and public nuisance (tracking of mud on roads, dust, etc...). This type of bylaw does not replace other land development approval processes

(like plane of subdivision, or site plan controls), and it is sanctioned under the Ontario Municipal Act.

The town convened a public information session on Aug. 10 to give people an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments in support of or in opposition to a Site Alteration Bylaw. (Notice of the meeting was advertised in the newspaper and on the town's website for two weeks.)

At the meeting, staff explained that council had not decided whether or not they would like to adopt such a bylaw. Staff encouraged residents to take the time to submit written comments indicating support of or opposition to any such bylaw. (The deadline for the submission of comments was August 26.)

Staff will review this input and the

comments from other agencies and will provide a summary to the general committee of council on Monday, Sept. 19. Anyone who submitted comments or signed the attendance sheet at the meeting will be provided with a copy of the report and the other comments when they are provided to Council.

If Council will proceed, you and other members of the public will be provided with opportunity for input.

Despite this ongoing public process, it is unfortunate that a private party is circulating misinformation like the statements in the petition above.

You may contact Mayor Dave Augustyn at mayor.dave@pelham.ca or read past columns at [www.pelhammayor.dave.blogspot.com](http://pelhammayor.dave.blogspot.com).

■ COLUMN

Building a case for prosperity in Niagara

Business 101 claims that the three secrets to success for most businesses is location, location, location.

That being the case, it is prudent for a committee of Niagara Regional Council to promote Niagara on the world stage for the strategic advantages we have and the bounty of resources, physical and cultural, that we offer.

Such is the task of the Niagara Gateway Economic Zone and Centre Initiative. The name may sound like a mouthful but the name originates with the Places to Grow policy which originated from the Province during the last term of regional council.

The Gateway Economic Zone is basically the urban areas in the Welland Canal corridor from Thorold, through Welland and into Port Colborne including the lands, resources and



Brian Baty
REGIONAL COUNCILOR

transportation modes that serve the area. The Gateway Economic Zone is the urban areas in the QEW corridor from Niagara Falls to Fort Erie.

As the Places to Grow policy was being developed, the government made it clear that it would direct and control development over the next 30 years according to the guidance in the policy. In early drafts of the policy, there was little potential for growth in Niagara. Several visits during Niagara Week at Queen's Park and several submissions to the government led to the identification of the Gateway Economic Zone and Centre.

Work of the committee is to identify and promote the assets in the two areas, to build a Community Improvement Plan to enhance the area and to conduct worldwide promotion of our products. One catalyst for the Gateway Economic Zone from Niagara Falls to Fort Erie is a major motor racing facility with a potential research partnership with McMaster University.

The preliminary economic driver for the Gateway Economic Zone is the green industry with particular potential

noted for construction and assembly of wind turbines to serve the future energy needs of Canada and the United States. Current work on the 406 extension and the planned east-west corridor to the Peace Bridge are part of the development of the economic centre and links it with the economic zone.

A presentation was made at the last committee meeting by the Binational Economic and Tourism Alliance on the border remediation project. Several factors have affected travel and

trade across our border: The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) has led to higher levels of security and delays at our borders, the requirement for passports, the currency exchange rates all pose challenges but a study undertaken indicates that our border crossings are the highest of all border crossings between Canada and the USA with our figures coming second only to Detroit/Windsor for truck traffic.

see BATY | page 13

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VOLUNTEERING: Gardens, home-made meals make help senior feels at home in their new home



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

Judy Fortier, left, and her husband Ray pose in one of the many gardens they built at The Woodlands of Sunset. The Fortiers have dedicated their lives to creating a homey environment for residents at the seniors home on Pelham St. in Welland.

Labour of love keeps Welland couple busy

VICTORIA GRAY
PelhamNEWS Staff

WELLAND — Home means something different to everyone.

But it's not just where you live that's important.

Ray and Judy Fortier from Welland have dedicated their lives to keeping that feeling alive.

"It's something we're passionate about. This is supposed to be their golden years, may as well give them a last hurrah," Ray Fortier said.

The retired couple spends more than 60 hours a month at The Woodlands of Sunset, a long-term care home in Welland spending time, money — their own and funds raised — as well as

hard work to make residents final years the best they can.

"People ask us, 'What can we do for you?' We say 'You've given us more than you know.' Our hearts couldn't be fuller. There isn't enough money to match what you get for doing this," Judy Fortier said.

With the help of The Woodlands of Sunset residents, the couple has spent almost four years transforming many gardens and courtyards on the property. Ray constructed a garden bed at waist height for residents to plant in, while Judy helped them to plant from the family members. She helped residents make up their own planters to take care of.

The Fortiers constructed a pergola in the dementia wing garden for patients to relax in.

Bren Kerwin, the home's administrator, said the couple put their heart and soul into helping out around the home, which straddles the Welland-Pelham border.

"Residents love the gardening Ray and Judy do. They overwhelmingly appreciate the gardening. They really

value how Ray and Judy have made the place look a whole lot better," he said.

The Fortiers were introduced to the home when Ray's brother-in-law lived there. They visited three or four times a week and wanted to make him feel more at home.

The couple has also made art and purchased art work and statues for the home, some of which they raffled for the home and were donated back and others purchased.

They also make memorial artworks and statues with the help of residents' families to reluctantly take patients shopping and to appointments outside the home, such as eye doctors.

On Thursday, they had Mary's freshly repaired glasses in tow.

They also just spend a lot of talking to residents.

"Neither of us had grandparents and we are both people who believe the most important thing is family and these people have become family and they need someone to take care of," Judy said.

The Fortiers do a monthly tea time and bring freshly baked goods. They bake cakes for residents' birthdays, they make homemade meals for the residents in each of the three wards, which have 30 residents each.

"We bring all of our own things, table cloths, cloth napkins, china and everything is home made even though the jams and they love it because they don't get that here," Judy said.

The couple run dances, dinners and fundraisers to help the home and do everything they can to keep residents happy.

"It's emotionally very difficult sometimes. We go home mentally exhausted because we worry about them and when you lose someone it breaks your heart," Judy said.

However, both of them said it's well worth it.

"If we can help make them laugh and give them some enjoyment, we should," Ray said.

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SUMMER CONCERT SERIES: Grand finale features Andre and the J Tones

VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo
Duncan, front left, and his brother Jain, father Roger and mother Theresa Macfarlane await the start of the Fonthill bandshell concert where Elton Lammie performed a selection of his famous country, oldies rock and roll, Broadway and opera songs. The summer concert series wraps up Thursday, Sept. 8 with Andre and the J Tones a rhythm and blues and soul band. Concert 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Fonthill Bandshell in Pelham Peace Park.

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FUNDRAISER: Prizes total \$18,000

Welland hospital cash lottery tickets on sale

For PelhamNEWS

Tickets are on sale for Welland Hospital Foundation's 10th annual Cash Lottery with prizes totalling \$18,000.

"Tickets have been available to past purchasers since Aug. 1 and sales are off to a good start," said fund development assistant Lori Portle. "Approximately 1,200 of the tickets have already been sold. Now the public can access them and sales typically pickup."

The cost is \$10 each or 6/\$50 and only 4,500 tickets are available for the draw that traditionally sells out.

The top prize is \$10,000; second is \$2,500; third is \$1,500; fourth is \$1,000; fifth is \$500 and 20 additional \$100 prizes. Money raised will purchase equipment for the Welland Hospital Site of the Niagara Health System.

The foundation's goal for 2011-2012 is \$1 million. The foundation is the main source of funding for equipment purchases and the list this year for the Welland site is more than \$7 million.

An early bird draw for \$500 was added in

2006 and is included again this year for any tickets purchased prior to Dec. 2. The early bird draw will be held on Friday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. The main prize draw will be held on Saturday, Jan. 7 at 1 p.m.

Both draws will be held at the Seaway Mall. GIANTFM will again be on hand to perform the draws and announce the winners live on air. There has been a partner in the draw since the first year.

With the draw date so far off thinking Christmas, it's not too early to be thinking about gifts for those hard to buy for people says Peter Allen, special events chair. "What better gift than supporting your community hospital and hopefully walking away with a cash prize. Everyone wins."

Tickets are available from Welland and Fonthill branches of Meridian Credit Union, Welland, Fonthill and Fenwick branches of the Royal Bank; Welland's Personalized Credit Union; the Welland location of McLeod, Jones, Barkwell LLP and Welland Hospital Foundation. Tickets may also be purchased by calling 905-378-4647 ext. 32395.

FUNDRAISER: Brock students put rub to Cystic Fibrosis

Shinerama comes to Pelham

For PelhamNEWS

The Brock University Students' Union (BWSU) is expanding its successful Shinerama Shine Day to more than 20 sites in St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Thorold, and for the first time Welland and Pelham.

BWSU invites Brock University Students, Faculty and Community members to take part in the fundraiser for Cystic Fibrosis on Sept. 10.

Students will be out shining everything from shoes to cars and helping barbecues across the city to help fight cystic fibrosis, a devastating and fatal disease.

Stop by a Shine Site between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Sites around the Niagara Region will

be located in: In Pelham at Sobeys Car Wash, 110 Regional Rd. 20 in Welland/Pelham Seaway Mall Sobeys, 609 South Pelham Rd. Boston Pizza, 934 Niagara St. and Welland Farmers' Market; in St. Catharines at Burger King, 318 Ontario Street, Cat's Caboose, 224 Glenridge, Dairy Queen, 415 Merritt Street, Kelsey's, Pen Centre, M and M Meat Shops, 353 Lake Street Market Square, Mark's No Fills, 581 Lake Street MOJO Auto, 108 Geneva St Zellers, 1000 Lakeshore Rd., Niagara Falls, 609 Dundurn Rd., Sobeys, 3714 Portage Rd.; Standoffs Lions Club, 5621 North St in Thorold at 7 Eleven, 17 Claremont St. Foodland, 9 Pine St. N, Macs, 207 Keefer Rd., Thorold Community Activities Group, 131 Richmond St.

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■ BASEBALL: Pelham captures Niagara South championship



Supplied Photo

The Pelham Minor Baseball Association M&M Meat Shops Mosquito team captured the Niagara South Interlock baseball championship on Aug. 17 by defeating Welland No. 2 in a best-of-three series. Game 3 was an intense, nail-biting thriller, wherein the lead went back and forth, inning to inning, until Pelham's bats could just not be stopped. Malysa Cirimo and Sarah Salduito were strong at the plate. In the bottom of the 7th, however, Welland came back, but Pelham was able to hold their lead after some awesome plays. Ryan Dykstra threw to Noah Wouthuis at home for a tag on the runner, Ryan tagged the lead runner at short stop, and the final toss by Zach Baltrusuias to Brock Pellow at first for third and final out. Front Row from left: Nicholas Yoldassis, Jakob Peters, Callan Salduito, Sarah Salduito, Tristan (Bucky) Barnhart. Middle Row from left: Malysa Cirimo, Noah Wouthuis, Ayden Janas, Brock Pellow, Reid Murray, Ryan Dykstra, Zachary Baltrusuias. Back Row from left: assistant coach Scott Murray, third base coach Jeff Dykstra, manager Joel Barnhart, first base coach Richard Wouthuis. Absent is coach John Pellow.

■ FUNDRAISING: Deemed not considerate of the environment

Wells of Hope dumps water bottle program

PENNY COLES
QMI Agency

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE — Ted van der Zalm continues to fundraise to deliver clean water to the people of Guatemala. But he won't be selling bottled water again.

Van der Zalm and the Wells of Hope team have decided they cannot continue with the bottled water program.

"We have a responsibility to Mother Earth," he said.

When the program was initiated about five years ago, it seemed like a good idea to raise money — the focus was on "having water" in Nicaragua through the sale of cases of water bottles to generate some of the funds needed to drill wells in Guatemala, and ultimately, so those much less fortunate would not have to haul water, said van der Zalm.

But at the time he allowed his zeal to help others, with the purest of motives, to outweigh

plastic's harmful effects to the environment, he said.

As the fundraising initiative winds down, he wants to thank all those in the Niagara community who helped support the program.

"Good things do not come easily. It is remarkable what one person needs of a friend or an ill person and the same holds true for the efforts of Wells of Hope."

The Wells of Hope family — and particularly the van der Zalm family, who for several years have travelled to Guatemala in January as a family, all five children and wife Marlan — are continuing "Ted — through the power of love" of water bottles to generate some of the funds needed to drill wells in Guatemala, and ultimately, so those much less fortunate would not have to haul water, said van der Zalm.

"The people struggling to survive and carve out a living in the mountainous regions of this country are no longer 'the poor' to us. They have become our best friends. Their children have become our children and their stories have become our stories. One cannot ignore their child when the child is ill or suffering."

This year Wells of Hope completed what was originally planned as a three-year initia-

tive in only two years, delivering fresh, clean drinking water to 900 families.

Not only are countless women freed from the need to daily haul buckets of brown, dirty, bacteria-infested water up and down mountain slopes, through the dirt roads men have been saved who otherwise would have died from the unsafe water that they had no choice but to drink.

The van der Zalm family is having to adjust to change in other ways — Ted, a teacher at Denis Morris High School who works one semester and then travels to Guatemala in January, is drilling wells to supplement his family's water supply.

He and his wife Miriam are also facing for the first time, after nine years of taking their children with them, leaving one of them at home when they go.

Their oldest, Sarah, has graduated from high school and will begin her studies at Brock University in September, and so will be unable to take the time off to travel with her parents.

"We're at a crossroads, facing the challenge of leaving one of our kids behind. But we're making the sacrifice we need to make in order to do what needs to be done."

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■ BUSINESS: Jeff Dixon

Fonthill man filling up Falls convention centre

JOHN LAW
QMI Agency

NIAGARA FALLS — Jeff Dixon feels like he just got the coolest TV in town.

LCD. Double-sided. Multi-display. The works. At 20 feet long, it would make Dixon's Superbowl party the one to beat.

But it's not going in his house. It's going across the Niagara River to where high-definition images will lure visitors to his other house, the Scotiabank Convention Centre Niagara. And he's just as excited.

"It's going to be a killer TV," he says, eyeing workers installing the screen outside the convention centre's front window.

The sign is part of what Dixon calls the "final 5%." The last details to be completed in the \$106-million 200,000-square-foot building that opened in April. But Dixon, the director of sales and marketing, knows the work will never really end. There will always be fine-tuning to be done, new problems to arise. Filling a convention centre isn't easy — that's why there are only 19 in Canada, and they're all competing for the same events.

Dixon's role is to convince them to come here. And as the new kid on the block, the Niagara Falls convention centre has to do everything legally.

"You need to understand everything about them," says the 36-year-old Fonthill native. "They want you to call them up and know everything from where they've been the last 10 years, what their patterns have been, what they like and don't like. You need to understand everything even before

you've met that meeting planner."

"It could take months to gather that information. You only get once every five years to potentially bid on that piece of business."

But Dixon knows he has a trump card no other city can offer — the falls themselves. And all of its frills. Planners don't have to arrange things to do for guests like they would in Calgary and Edmonton.

"We're more of a destination, and that's more than just the falls."

So, while the Scotiabank Convention Centre Niagara is dwarfed in size by its Toronto counterpart, there will always be groups swayed by the lure of the falls. It's the reason the building finally became a reality this year after two decades of talk.

Dixon was the first person hired three years ago by convention centre general manager Kerry Painter, and in a strange way he can thank his daughter for the gig.

Six years ago he was sales manager of the Park Hyatt Hotel, commuting from Oakville every day. A great job, he says, but not for a single dad raising a daughter. He walked away "to make sure my daughter had the life she needed." To be closer to friends and family, he moved back to Niagara in 2006 and became the Niagara Riverview Casino's manager of promotional sales.

He was so enthused at news Niagara Falls would finally get its own convention centre, he volunteered to be on the committee. He was hired as director of sales and marketing in August 2008, and for two years it was just him and Painter on the payroll, working endless hours laying the groundwork.

BATY

Regional council will seek membership in TRANSHUB

FROM PAGE 5

Significant border improvements have been made and others planned to ease the flow of traffic. Delays are predicted for 90 to 95% of the times there are no major delays at most bridge crossings. The presenter strongly recommended that Niagaraans obtain Nexus cards to facilitate our personal travel as well as alleviating congestion in the non-Nexus lanes.

The second presenter made a presentation on TRANSHUB, a private consortium designed to attract investment to the Hamilton to Buffalo corridor based on our harbour, rail, road

and airport facilities. The initiative began with research undertaken by McMaster University's Institute of Transportation and Logistics (ITL). It was recommended that our own regional council will seek membership in this organization in 2012 as its direction totally coincides with our promotion of the Niagara Gateway Economic Zone and Centre.

Brian Baty is a Niagara Regional Councillor for the Town of Pelham and is a member of the Niagara Gateway Economic Zone and Centre Implementation Committee. brian.baty@niagararegion.ca

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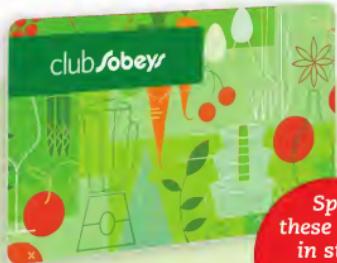
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Journaling Workshop

Ever wonder how to get started? Need some new and creative ideas? Join Marlene for this creative and interesting workshop exploring the different types of journaling and its benefits. Please bring a pen and notebook. Sept. 6 at 6:30. \$3.00. Please register ahead. Pelham Public Library

Meditation Morning

Marcia leads you through a number of different types of meditations for stress relief and focus. Great for beginners and those who have meditated before. Please bring a pen and notebook. Sept. 10 from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m. \$3. Pelham Pen Library

Book Talk

Join a Pelham Library staff member in talking about books – the new, the good, the bad, and the ugly. It is not necessary to have read the book. Sept. 12 from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society. \$2.50. Pelham Public Library

Deadly Women of Ontario

Author and Historian Cheryl MacDonald delivers a riveting presentation, not only describing these dramatic cases, but also discussing how crime opens a window onto the past, revealing details about everyday life that might otherwise be lost. Cheryl MacDonald is the author or editor of nearly 40 books on Canadian history. Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. \$5. Please register ahead. Pelham Public Library

Getting Started with your Kobo E-reader

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Estate Planning: It's For Everyone!

Gary Zalot from Memorial Gardens will talk about wills, death benefits, powers of attorney, personal care, finances, pre-arrangement options for cemetery property and funerals, plus the new eco-options that are available. Sept. 20 at 2:00. Free but register ahead. Pelham Public Library

Understanding Anxiety

Do you suffer from intense, prolonged feelings of fright, distress, or excessive worry for no obvious reason? 12% of Canadians will experience an anxiety disorder in their lifetime. The CMHA presents this informative session, plus you will hear a personal story from someone who copes with the challenges of this stressful disorder. Free but please register ahead. Sept. 21 at 6 p.m. Pelham Public Library



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African Bush Mango

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- High in water soluble fiber and may help you lose weight in a healthier manner

Hoodia Gordonii

- Used traditionally to help curb hunger cravings*
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Baobab

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- High in anti-oxidents which may help cleanse and detox if your body
- Contains Essential Fatty Acids used for helping to maintain healthy cholesterol levels*
- Reportedly 33 times more anti-oxidents than red grapes*
- May help improve circulation promoting healthier looking skin*
- Traditionally used to aid the gastrointestinal tract helping to improve digestion*
- May help strengthen your immune system for overall good health*

Green Tea Extract

- Prepared from unfermented leaves offering a long list of traditional benefits
- Ongoing research has shown green tea helps aid weight loss
- High in anti-oxidents called polyphenols

*These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. ** This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent disease. **



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PURGATIVE
with purchase
of kit**



CleanseMORE

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healthycupboard@gmail.com



Tanya and Ian Birrell
Owners of The Healthy Cupboard